

November 2016

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"A City of Excellence"

Seat Pleasant News

CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT

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Reveral L. Yeargin

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WARD II COUNCILMEMBER

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Charl Jones

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Jeannelle Wallace

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CHIEF OF POLICE

Devan Martin

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Samuel Prue

DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Weyimi Ayu

CITY CLERK

Dashaun N. Lanham

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

Sharron Lipford

States Homeowners' Tax Credit Program by Robert L. Ashton

The purpose of this article is to explain the program that is available from the State of Maryland to potentially lower your property tax burden.

The State of Maryland Homeowners Property Tax Credit Program

The Homeowners' Tax Credit Program provides credits against State and local real property for homeowners who qualify based on a sliding scale of property tax liability and income. The Homeowners Tax Credit Program is a State funded program, where the State reimburses local governments for the cost of the tax credit against local property. This program was initiated in 1975, was originally limited to homeowners age 60 and older and homeowners with disabilities. This program was expanded to homeowners of all ages in 1978. The last change to the tax credit program occurred in 2004. This legislative initiative changed the Property Tax Credit to bring it in line with inflationary increases in property values since 1998. It is worth pointing out that according to the Maryland State Department of Taxation and Assessment currently only 165 residents participate in this program. An additional 70 Seat Pleasant residents are eligible for the Homeowners Property Tax Credit at a net savings of \$610 per resident. The State of Maryland's Property Tax Credit Program is 100% supported by the State of Maryland. **The deadline for submitting the Homeowners Property Tax Credit Application for individuals under 70 years old was September 1, 2016. However for individuals 70 and older there is no deadline.** The Homeowners Property Tax Credit Eligibility application can be completed one of three ways listed below:

1. *By Mailing the application to the address on the next page*
2. *By Using the online Homeowners Property Tax Credit Application (Application online was due September 1, 2016).*
3. *By Printing and mailing the pdf application on the State Department of Assessment and Taxation web site <http://www.dat.state.md.us>*

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The State of Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation mailing address is:

Department of Assessment and Taxation

Homeowners' Tax Credit Program

301 West Preston Street

Baltimore Maryland 21201

The State of Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation web site is:

<http://www.dat.state.md.us>

The State of Maryland Department of Assessment and Taxation phone number is:

410-767-4433.

If you have any questions please contact Robert L. Ashton City Treasurer 301/336-2600

extension 2230.



Prince George's County
Department of Environmental Resources
Waste Management Division
Recycling Section



**Source
Reduction
Tips**

Grass Cycle: Use a mulching mower to finely shred your mowed grass and leave it on the lawn. Start a backyard compost pile.



**BROWN
IS THE NEW
GREEN**

Effective January 1, 2014,
Residential Curbside
Yard Waste Collection will
no longer be accepted in
plastic bags. Residents
should place yard waste
loose in a collection can
or use large yard waste
PAPER bags.

For more information, please call
County Click 311

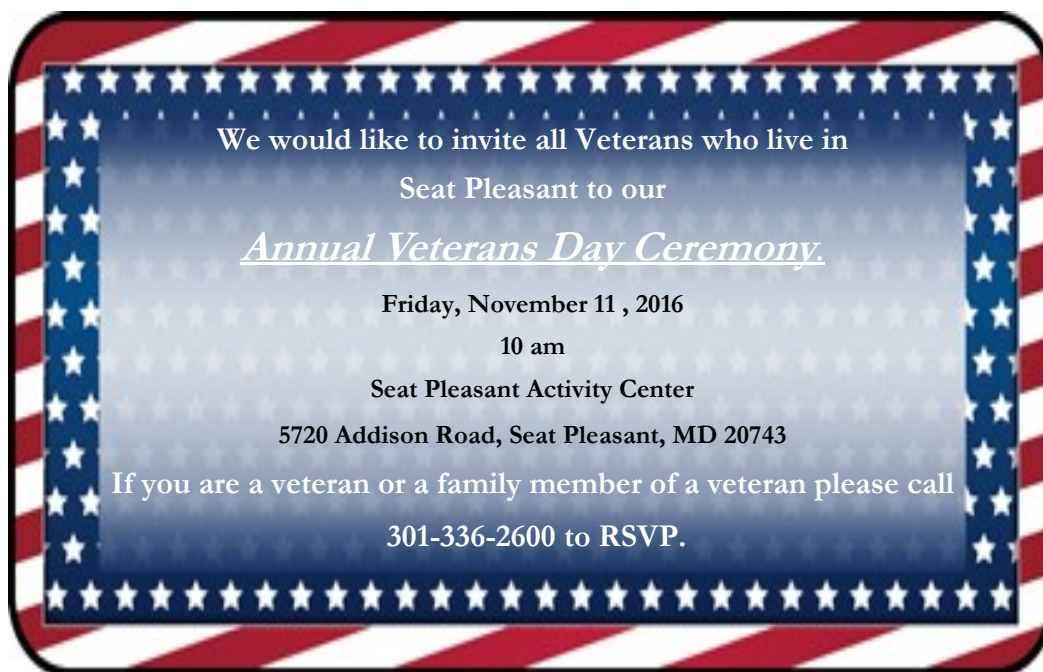
**or
CAN IT...**

Save money and use
reusable containers,
such as trash cans. Be
sure to clearly mark the
can/container

YARD WASTE

SNOW DETAIL

The Public Works Department has been researching alternative snow removal and ice preventive measures. Also, we are monitoring on a daily basis for information on winter weather advisory forecast. After a snow warning is issued by the County if snow continues to accumulate the County Executive can declare a State-of-Emergency. This can happen ANYTIME after snow has started to fall. Please watch news stations and listen to radio stations for advisory. During snow emergencies we are asking residents to use driveways for parking if they have one. If on-street parking must be used, cars must be parked on the even-numbered side of the street during snow emergency operations. This is very important in order to allow plows to clear residential roadways. Plows cannot maneuver around vehicles to clear roadways. One side of the roadway must be clear of vehicles for plow drivers to effectively perform snow and ice removal services. Snow emergency routes will be determined at another date when weather is deteriorating due to snow accumulation. One tractor, two pick-ups, and three dump trucks all equipped to spread salt and plow snow. We have reaffirmed our relationship with our salt suppliers. We currently have \$10,000.00 for over-time that will be used to cover snow removal in our budget.




THANKSGIVING DINNER

If you are a resident of Seat Pleasant and are in need of assistance for the upcoming holiday, the City of Seat Pleasant is here to help. Residents who are low income may enter a lottery to receive a giftcard or a Thanksgiving Basket. You will need proof of residency, income and household size.

Registration begins October 19th
and ends
November 16th

For more information please call (301) 336-2600.



DO YOU NEED A RIDE?



The Call-A-Bus will now pick up residents for the city's Public Sessions. Request must be made by 1 pm Friday , before the session. The Call-A-Bus will only pick-up residents if there are at least 5 reservations for the bus, so make sure to tell a neighbor.



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Achieving Success through Leadership



Director of Economic Development

Director Weyimi Ayu, J.D. is a life-long resident of Prince George's County, Maryland. He possesses a Bachelor of Science degree from the Bowie State University and a Juris Doctorate from the Howard University School of Law. Previously, he worked for one of the largest law firms in the world in their mergers and acquisitions department

and has owned his own business. He was also the City of Seat Pleasant's first Nuisance Abatement Coordinator so he knows the city very well. Director Ayu has the necessary experience and assets to assist the Mayor & Council in taking Seat Pleasant towards its City of Excellence.

**Before you are a leader,
success is all about
growing yourself.
When you become a
leader, success is all
about growing others.
—Jack Welch**

Economic Development News

Economic development strategies for a particular demographic area should be based on the needs, assets and goals of the community. Each and every community face different challenges and will have a unique set of assets and resources available to address these challenges. Economic development has many definitions; yet typically it is the creation of jobs and wealth and the improvement of the quality of life within that community.

Usually economic development includes policies that governments undertake to meet broad economic objectives such as price stability, high employment, and sustainable growth. These efforts can encompass monetary and fiscal policies, regulation of financial institutions, trade and tax policies. Furthermore, it can include policies and programs to provide infrastructure such as the building of highways, managing parks and providing medical access and assistance to disadvantaged locales. Finally, economic development refers to programs and policies explicitly directed at improving the business climate through specific efforts in business finance, marketing, neighborhood development, business retention and expansion, small business development, technology transfer, and real estate redevelopment.

As the City of Seat Pleasant moves towards its goal of becoming a City of Excellence as well as a Smart City, the Department for Economic Development sees as its strategic goal to partner with citizens and residents, political figures, governmental and non-governmental organizations and the business community worldwide to create a "Smart Cities" model for the world to follow. A recent accomplishment towards that end is the awarding of \$4.1 million from the US Department of Agriculture for the redevelopment of the City Hall and Public Works buildings into a technology-infused operations center to make Seat Pleasant a "City for Me." This project has already begun and is slated to be completed by the first part of Year 2018.

The community within the City needs to be more engaged and educated as to what type of development they would like to see in Seat Pleasant. According to anecdotal evidence presented at recent City Council meetings, citizens want to see more modern revitalization efforts occurring at certain sites and get out of "the Stone Age." We are working towards that goal feverishly and hope to deliver within the Mayor's fourth term some great tangible evidence of this goal coming to fruition. We are working every day to ensure that Seat Pleasant is truly A City of Excellence!



Chief of Police

Chief Devan A. Martin is a life-long resident of Prince George's County, Maryland and native of the City of Seat Pleasant. He has been drawn in to public service since his childhood and was a founding member of the Seat Pleasant Junior Police Program.

Chief Martin is a graduate of Largo High School and he received his higher education at Anne Arundel Community College, Bowie State University, and The George Washington University Program for Public Safety Leadership.

Chief Martin is a tenured law enforcement officer who is considered an expert in Community Policing. He is a leader who is devoted to strengthening community partnerships and proactively addressing conditions that give rise to public safety issues. As a native of *"A City of Excellence"*, he possesses a unique and invaluable understanding of the challenges and needs of our community. Chief Martin is committed to the Seat Pleasant Police Department becoming a department that's **ENGAGES, EMPOWERS and EDUCATES** the citizens as we move towards a Smarter and Safer community.

Happy Thanksgiving

SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

*T - Turn on front & rear exterior house lights this holiday season
U - Unusual or suspicious activity should be reported to the police
R - Remember details and descriptions of people, locations, etc.
K - Keep an eye on your purse & children while shopping
E - Entertain your family, friends, & guests in a safe, fun filled home
Y - You can help make this a successful holiday for everyone*



"A City of Excellence"



Director of Community Services

Director Sharron Lipford, M.S. is a life-long resident of Prince George's County, Maryland and native of Upper Marlboro. She has been drawn to serving the community since childhood by participating in multiple volunteer endeavors and non-profit opportunities.

Ms. Lipford is a graduate of Largo High School and she received her higher education at Virginia State University with undergraduate and graduate degrees in Sport Management.

From graduating with her M.S. degree in 2012, Ms. Lipford gained experience as a Manager of a nationally incorporated fitness franchise, increasing the exposure and sales revenues by 40%. She is a leader who is devoted to strengthening community partnerships and proactively addressing public empowerment and self-sustaining information. She possesses a unique and vital understanding of the challenges and needs of our community from years of education, personal experience and data research served as a member of society.

Director Lipford is committed to the Community Services Department becoming a department that is focused on the **ENGAGEMENT**, **EMPOWERMENT** and **EDUCATION** of the citizens as we move towards a Smarter and Connected community.

MOBILE MARKET

Seat Pleasant Fire Department
 6305 Addison Rd. | Seat Pleasant | MD | 20743
www.SeatPleasantMD.gov

If you are in need of help, and are short on food or need more help during the holidays, please don't hesitate to come by with your own bags or boxes. We are here to serve our community.

Time:
 5pm-8pm

Date:
 October
 27th
 November
 3rd & 17th
 December
 15th & 22nd

For more information please call 301-336-2600

Stay In Touch

Our goal is to keep you aware of all new meetings, events and city legislation. We need you and all of the residents of Seat Pleasant to help create a culture of engagement. In order to continue being a

"A City of Excellence"

we need your help. Remember to visit the sites below to sign up with your email & stay informed.

@seatpleasant1
 @cityofseatpleasant
 @cityofseatpleasant



Visit
www.seatpleasantmd.gov
 to sign-up for emails and alerts.

City Council Monthly Meeting & Legislation Action Office of the City Clerk

October 2016

The City of Seat Pleasant newly elected officials were sworn in on **Monday, October 3, 2016**



The Honorable Reveral L. Yeargin was elected Council President.

*Pictured from left to right: Councilmember **Aretha Stephenson**, Ward II; Councilmember **Kelly Porter**, -At-Large; Councilmember **Gloria Sistrunk**, Ward V; Mayor **Eugene W. Grant**; Councilmember **Charl Jones**, Ward IV; Council President **Reveral Yeargin**, Ward III; Councilmember **Shireka McCarthy**, At-Large; Councilmember **Lamar Maxwell**, Ward I*

Monday, October 3, 2016-Special Session

Charter Amendment Resolution R-17-01 Powers and Duties of Mayor the Mayor **Approved 6-1-0**

Ordinance O-17-04 Authorization to Borrow Money in connection with the Smart City Project for City Hall and Public Works Improvements 2nd Reading **Approved 7-0-0**

Ordinance O-17-05 FY2016-2017 Budget Amendment for Salaries for the Mayor and City Council 1st Reading

Resolution R-17-06 Amendment of Resolution R-17-04 to Appointment of City Administrator **Approved 7-0-0**

Monday, October 3, 2016- Regular Work Session

Ordinance O-17-06 Amendment of Chapter 6-Checks 1st Reading

Ordinance O-17-07 Amendment of Chapter 14-Departments and Committees 1st Reading

Ordinance O-17-08 Amendment of Chapter 12-City Hall 1st Reading

Monday, October 10, 2016 Public Session

Ordinance O-17-05 FY2016-2017 Budget Amendment for Salaries for the Mayor and City Council 2nd Reading **Approved 7-0-0**

Ordinance O-17-06 Amendment of Chapter 6-Checks 2nd Reading **Approved 7-0-0**

Ordinance O-17-07 Amendment of Chapter 14-Departments and Committees 2nd Reading **Approved 7-0-0**

Ordinance O-17-08 Amendment of Chapter 12-City Hall 2nd Reading **Approved 7-0-0**

The Meeting Minutes for the month of September were approved on October 10, 2016.

The City Council monthly meetings will resume as scheduled beginning November 7, 2016 as the first (1st) Monday for the Regular Work Session at 6:00p.m., Monday, November 14, 2016 for the Public Session at 7:00p.m. All meetings are opened to the public with comments being taken in the Public Session.

Copies of legislation and approved meeting minutes can be found on the City's website www.seatpleasantmd.gov or by contacting the City Clerk Dashaun N. Lanham, CMC directly on 301-336-2600.

City of Seat Pleasant

"A City of Excellence"

6301 Addison Road

Seat Pleasant,

Maryland, 20743

Phone: 301-336-2600

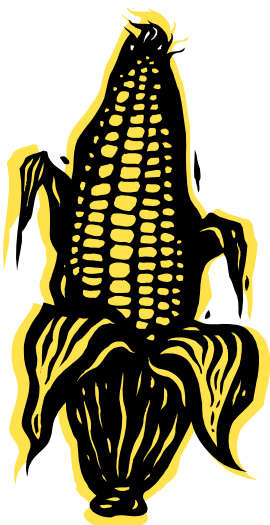
Fax: 301-336-0029

Email: communityservices@seatpleasantmd.gov

PRESORTED
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE PAID

We're on the Web!!

www.SeatPleasantMD.gov



IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

SEAT PLEASANT POLICE DEPARTMENT	301-499-8700
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY NON-EMERGENCY	301-352-1200
SEAT PLEASANT VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT	301-336-2331
BATES TRASH	301-773-2069
CITY HALL/CALL-A-BUS	301-336-2600
METRO ACCESS	301-562-5360
PEPCO/OUTAGES & WIRES	202-833-7500/ 877-737-2662
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPT. OF AGING	301-265-8450
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY DEPT. OF SOCIAL SERVICES	301-909-7025
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY ELECTION BOARD	301-341-7300
PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY THE BUS	301-883-5600
WASHINGTON GAS/EMERGENCY	703-750-1000/ 703-750-1400
WSSC/EMERGENCY	301-206-9772/ 301-206-4002
SEAT PLEASANT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301-925-2330
CARMODY HILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	301-808-8180
G. JAMES GHOLSON MIDDLE SCHOOL	301-883-8390
CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL	301-499-7080
FAIRMOUNT HIGH SCHOOL	301-925-1360